

Service Date: September 18, 2006

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER OF NORTHWESTERN ENERGY,	)	UTILITY DIVISION
Application for Approval of 2006 Avoided Cost	)	
Compliance Filing -- Schedules QFLT-1 and STPP-1	)	DOCKET NO. D2006.6.94
	)	ORDER NO. 6753a

**INTERIM ORDER**

On June 22, 2006, NorthWestern Energy (NWE), filed before the Public Service Commission (PSC) an application for approval of NWE's annual (2006) qualifying facility avoided cost compliance filing regarding NWE's qualifying facility long term (QFLT-1) tariff and short term power purchase (STPP-1) tariff. NWE requests a decrease in QFLT-1 escalating rates (energy from 4.2415 to 4.2373 cents per kilowatt hour, capacity from \$65.765 to \$63.593 per kilowatt per year) and an increase in partially escalating rates (energy from 1.5831 to 1.7275 cents per kilowatt hour, capacity from \$1.794 to \$1.819 per kilowatt per year). NWE requests an increase in the STPP-1 rate (from \$0.011145 to \$0.014131 per kilowatt hour). The PSC approves the change in rates on an interim basis. Interim rates are subject to rebate or surcharge provisions, if the rates approved on a final basis are different than those approved on an interim basis.

Done and dated this 12th day of September, 2006, by a vote of 5-0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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GREG JERGESON, Chairman

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BRAD MOLNAR, Vice-Chairman

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DOUG MOOD, Commissioner

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ROBERT H. RANEY, Commissioner

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THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Connie Jones  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request the PSC to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.